

Hope: *Everything that is done in the world is done by hope.* —Martin Luther King, Jr., American civil rights leader

Terrorist attacks mean changes ahead

Commentary



The Military District of Washington Engineer Co. from Fort Belvoir, Va. conducting urban search and rescue operations inside the Pentagon following the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. — U.S. Army photo.

The terrorist attacks against America have shaken us all. Nearly a week after the horrific events of September 11, I am personally unable to grasp the full scope of the destruction and loss of life. Several news commentators were quick to liken the attacks to “America’s second Pearl Harbor.” Perhaps our connection with the “first Pearl Harbor” makes the terrible events of September 11 so poignant.

The terrorist acts against our great country will change our lives, both as Americans, and also as public servants. Locally, armed sol-

diers control access to military bases where we work. A commute that took 15 minutes on September 11 took as much as 4 hours two days later. Construction contractors, A/E firms, and our other partners were denied access to work sites. Travel to and from the mainland, and everywhere else for that matter, is curtailed.

We face more changes in the future. While I cannot predict what form all of these changes will take, I do know that our jobs will become tougher. In order to achieve protection of our force—soldiers, their families, DA civilians—we’ll be inconvenienced. And, even while we struggle to get to work on time, our nation will call on us to shore up protection of critical facilities, repair damaged infrastructure, and take steps to prevent these attacks from happening again. Some of us will deploy off-island. Some of us will don the uniform of a reservist. *We will be among those asked to do the extraordinary.*

A Greek philosopher named Polybius once said, “The true test of the perfect man is the power of bearing, with spirit and dignity, violent changes of fortune.” Despite the violence in New York City, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania, our magnificent America, while bowed, remains unbroken.

Yes, change of a magnitude unimagined is upon us all. Yes, our nation will require some level of personal sacrifice from each of us. But, I know this: we will get through this, and eventually America will shine brighter, and be stronger than ever. As I have said in other forums, I support the President, the Chief of Engineers, and our Division Commander.... And that’s all I am asking you to do.

With bearing. With spirit. And with dignity.

Lt. Col. Ronald N. Light

Commander, Honolulu Engineer District

Aloha means Hello

to...**Dorinda Won**, EC-CC, who has returned to HED after three years with JED; **Lynnette Oh**, PP-A, who joins HED from a position with the Directorate of Public Works at Schofield Barracks; **Paul Kai** and **Roy Chung**, Design Branch, who come to HED from the private sector; **Wayne**

Hughes, LM, who transferred from JED; **Cleo Kan**, **Milagros Dixon**, and **Alex Tokunaga**, undergraduates at the University of Hawaii, who are participating in the Student Educational Employment Program (STEP); and summer hires, **Jenelle Wong**, EC; **Paulette Choy**, RE; **Gary Li**, CT; and **Barbara Mills**, RE.

Aloha means Good-bye to...**Thom Lichte**, EC, who has transferred to POD; and **Florence Nii**, CT, who has retired.

Congratulations to...**Karen Tomoyasu**, RM, who has transferred to the Environmental-Technical Branch.

HED participated in an **Islands Task Force (ITF) Conference** July 24-26. The ITF consists of representatives from FEMA,

Parting is such sweet sorrow...

Tina Bagasani, POD, assists an emotional **Misty Payne**, RM, at her farewell on July 20. Misty left HED to join her husband, who is in the Navy, at his new duty station in Virginia. —Photo by Michelle Cain



NOAA, USACE, local emergency managers and planners, and various consultants supporting the Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES) program. The ITF was established to develop specific guidance and procedures to be utilized in the preparation of HES in island environments, according to **Milton Yoshimoto**, PP-C.

Bruce Stevenson, EC-CC, presented a class titled **Techniques for Successful Proposals Requiring Cost and Pricing Data** to the Small Business Administration on July 24.

